



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

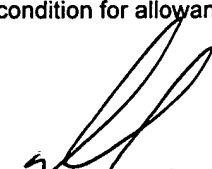
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/668,735	09/23/2003	Ronald D. Provow	58727US002	1778
32692	7590	04/06/2007	EXAMINER	
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY			MARCHESCHI, MICHAEL A	
PO BOX 33427			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ST. PAUL, MN 55133-3427			1755	
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
04/06/2007		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

LegalUSDocketing@mmm.com
LegalDocketing@mmm.com

Advisory Action Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/668,735	PROVOW ET AL.	
	Examiner Michael A. Marcheschi	Art Unit 1755	
--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --			
THE REPLY FILED 21 March 2007 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.			
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:</p> <p>a) <input type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires <u>3</u> months from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p> <p>b) <input type="checkbox"/> The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.</p> <p>Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).</p>			
<p>Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).</p>			
<p>NOTICE OF APPEAL</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).</p>			
<p>AMENDMENTS</p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <input type="checkbox"/> They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below); (b) <input type="checkbox"/> They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below); (c) <input type="checkbox"/> They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or (d) <input type="checkbox"/> They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims. <p>NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).</p>			
<p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).</p>			
<p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): <u>112 first paragraph rejection</u>.</p>			
<p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).</p>			
<p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) <input type="checkbox"/> will not be entered, or b) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.</p> <p>The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:</p> <p>Claim(s) allowed: _____</p> <p>Claim(s) objected to: _____</p> <p>Claim(s) rejected: <u>1,4,10,12,16,17,20,23-26,28,32-35,37 and 38</u>.</p> <p>Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: <u>6-9</u>.</p>			
<p>AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will <u>not</u> be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).</p>			
<p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will <u>not</u> be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome <u>all</u> rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).</p>			
<p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.</p>			
<p>REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER</p> <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: <u>see attached</u>.</p>			
<p>12. <input type="checkbox"/> Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s). _____</p>			
<p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</p>			
 Michael A. Marcheschi Primary Examiner Art Unit: 1755			

ATTACHMENT TO ADVISORY ACTION

With respect to the arguments based on Hoopman, Neff, Adefris Wei and Kaisaki et al., in combination, no new arguments are presented (the examiner has fully responded to any previous arguments based on this combination).

The only new argument is based on Skeem et al. in that the office has handled this in a lackadaisical manner. The examiner disagrees because the office has clearly defined why this reference can be used in combination with the other references and applicants have not clearly presented evidence otherwise for the following reasons.

The office clearly established proper motivation in view of the benefits defined by Skeem (Skeem provides the necessary motivation to produce the shapes having a radiused section as defined by the instant claims. Although this reference is directed to teeth on a cutting article, it is the examiners position that one skilled in the art reading Skeem would understand, in view of the benefits defined, that the radiused section is not only applicable to teeth but to any feature that is used in abrading operations). Applicants arguments do not clearly and persuasively argue against this motivation.

In addition, applicants argue the examiners further statement that "the use of a radiused section will minimize the retention of swarf at the junction between the feature and substrate surface, thus maximizes the continuous use of the article" in that Skeem et al. does not support this assertion. The examiner acknowledges this, however, this statement is well within the scope of the skilled artisan because with an angled junction (as is the case without a radiused section) more swarf will be collected at said angled junction when compared to a radiused junction. This is apparent because the radius at the junction will help in the elimination of the swarf. An angled

Art Unit: 1755

junction will trap more material at said junction when compared to a radiused junction because the material (swarf in this case) can flow over the radiused junction more easily than in an angled junction. To support the examiners position, a staircase with an angled junction between the step and riser collects more lint when compared to a staircase with an angled junction between the step and riser..